

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



May 1, 2020

Dear Governor Dunleavy,

As epidemiologists and researchers learn more about the novel coronavirus, there is a growing body of evidence indicating the use of simple cloth face coverings can reduce transmission of COVID-19 when infected persons may be experiencing asymptomatic shedding of the virus. This means wearing face coverings can help to reduce spread in places experiencing active community-based transmission or where social distancing may be hard to maintain (like the grocery store, post office and other places of business).

As your administration lays out plans to reopen Alaska, we urge you to issue an additional COVID-19 Health Mandate requiring Alaskans to wear face coverings in public, including both essential and non-essential businesses. We share the hope that our economy will be limitedly impacted by the necessary protective measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and protect the lives of Alaskans, but we must proceed with great caution to reduce the danger of a significant second wave of infection as we attempt to return to a new normal.

Wearing face coverings in public is a simple and highly effective measure we should all practice to protect one another, but the most effective way we can achieve this compliance will be through your leadership and guidance by issuing an additional health mandate.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,



Representative Tiffany Zulkosky



Representative Harriet Drummond



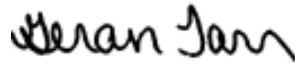
Representative Matt Claman



Representative Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins



Representative Zach Fields



Representative Geran Tarr



Representative Andi Story

CC:

Commissioner Adam Crum, Department of Health and Social Services  
Dr. Anne Zink, Chief Medical Officer